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Harry Adams retired at 70

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HARRY ADAMS
RETIRES AT 70

One of the University of Montana's greatest sports figures is retiring at the end of this year after more than 35 years of coaching here.

Harry Adams, 70 and currently UM head track coach, first came to Missoula as a student in 1915. He played four years of football, two years of track, and one year of basketball for the Grizzlies. He has coached UM teams for many years since 1921.

Adams, currently professor of health and physical education, will stay on the UM staff as a professor emeritus and will retain his office in the field house. His successor will be announced later according to Dr. Walter C. Schwank, UM Director of Athletics.

Dr. Schwank said, "With a most sincere regret the University sees Prof. Adams retire from his position as head track coach. He has indeed become a tradition here and will always be remembered for the men he has developed in track and field and the excellent guidance he has given them."

Adams played in the football squad that held national **championship** contenders Syracuse to a 0-0 tie in 1915 and was the quarterback when the Grizzlies earned their only victory on record over Washington in 1920.

After his graduation Adams coached the UM frosh teams in football, basketball and track between 1921 and 1924. For one year he coached the same sports at DePaul University in Chicago.

He returned to Missoula in 1925 and coached the varsity sports of track and football until World War II. After the war he again returned to UM to become head

(more)

track coach and football back field coach. In 1952 he was appointed track and cross country coach, but he still did scouting work for the football team.

UM President Robert Johns said it would be very difficult to replace a man of Adams' stature. He said Prof. Adams' service to the University in the character development of the students he taught and the fame he brought to UM with his track and field teams was indeed great.

Adams has coached hundreds of athletes and has turned out many Montana All-Americans. Among the champions are Russell Sweet and Jack Emigh, sprinters, Arnold Gilletter, miler and two-miler, Tom McGowan, John Shaffer and Dick Coyle, discus throwers and the latest Doug Brown in cross country, three miler and six miler.

Prof. Adams worked with the NCAA Track and Field Rules Committee and in 1961 was named to the Helms Athletic Foundation Track and Field Hall of Fame, along with only 12 other nationally recognized track coaches and athletes.